

The FCC should not lift the dominant classification from the Local Exchange Carriers. It will stifle competition and innovation and gravely hurt consumers. If re-classified as non-dominant, the LECs would have no incentive to allow other ISPs access at a competitive rate, giving them a monopoly on DSL. My own DSL provider would be pushed out and I would be forced to accept service from my local telecom, which would be much inferior and more restrictive service at an equal or higher price. This is not good for consumers. Other broadband does not represent acceptable competition because the coverage areas are different and the price and technical specifications of service are different. Also, an environment in which there are only 2 or a hand full of broadband providers is not one in which the customer can really get what he wants at a reasonable price, nor does it stimulate ISPs to formulate new and better ways to serve their customers.

Do not let the Bell "Wolves" own the chicken coop you already allow them to dominate. Competition requires competitors to be alive. Competition in the American Telecom marketplace will not be incentivized, it will be torpedoed. ISPs and CLECs will die, consumers will be deprived of choice and the FCC will be wholly to blame for the travesty. DO NOT DO IT. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.